

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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BEIRUT ALSO POUCH BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO USUN NEW YORK

USIA WASHDC FROM GENEVA 19 APR 75:

QUOTE UNCLAS GENEVA 2759

USIA PASS IPS AND IBS

FROM USDEL LOS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: UNCLASSIFIED WEEKLY WRAP-UP FOR D/LOS ENDING

SUMMARY: INFORMAL NEGOTIATING GROUPS CONTINUED TO BE
HALLMARK OF CONFERENCE WORK METHOD. STADY PROGRESS
WAS MADE ON MANY SUBJECTS, PARTICULARLY ON LESS CON-
TROVERSIAL ITEMS. END SUMMARY.

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2. GENERAL COMMITTEE: ON 15 APRIL, AMERASINGHE,

REVIEWING WORK METHOD AND PROGRESS OF CONFERENCE STATED HOPE THAT COMMITTEE I UNIFIED TEXT WOULD BE READY BY END SIXTH WEEK, BUT UNDER PRESENT METHODS OBTAINMENT OF UNIFIED TEXT IN COMMITTEE III AND II APPEARED DOUBTFUL. CONSEQUENTLY, HE INFORMALLY PROPOSED COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND BUREAU PRODUCE UNIFIED TEXT, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM PRESIDENT, WITH POSSIBILITY OF JOINT COMMITTEE II AND III MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT PRESIDING. AMERASINGHE FURTHER PROPOSED POSSIBILITY OF ADJOURNING CONFERENCE MAY 4 FOLLOWED BY FOUR-WEEK SUMMER SESSION TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK.

AMONG VARIOUS INTERVENTIONS, POLAND, USSR, AND TUNISIA SUPPORTED PREPARATION OF UNIFIED TEXTS BY COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, IF NECESSARY AFTER SESSION, AND CONTINUATION OF WORKING GROUPS. U.S. SUPPORTED COMPLETION OF TEXTS APPROVED ON COMMITTEE LEVEL, OPPOSED DRAFTING REPORT AT END OF CONFERENCE AS PROPOSED BY CHILE. SINGAPORE, WITH CONCURRENCE OF PRESIDENT, DEFINED UNIFIED TEXT AS BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION, NOT A NEGOTIATED, COMPROMISE OR VOTING TEXT. PERU, FRG, FRANCE, AND TUNISIA OPPOSED SUMMER SESSION IN OPPOSITION TO BOLIVIA AND KUWAIT WHO FAVORED IT. PRESIDENT ENDED MEETING WITH INTENTION TO CONSULT WITH REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMEN.

3. COMMITTEE I: WG OF C-I HAS HAD SOME DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK IN MOVING FORWARD WITH DISCUSSIONS ON CONDITIONS OF EXPLOITATION, ALTHOUGH PACE OF PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS HAS INTENSIFIED. MAJOR OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS APPEARS TO BE INABILITY OF GROUP OF 77 TO REACH COMMON POSITION ON VARIOUS ITEMS IN CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT OF BASIC CONDITIONS. WG AGREED APRIL 17 TO ABANDON PARAGRAPH-BY-PARAGRAPH APPROACH AND TO PERMIT INTERVENTIONS ON ALL POINTS OF PRINCIPLE. AVOIDING DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF PRECISE LANGUAGE IN DISCUSSION PAPER MAY ENABLE WG TO COMPLETE DISCUSSION OF BASIC CONDITIONS WITHIN SEVERAL DAYS, AT WHICH TIME IT WILL PRESUMABLY TURN TO MACHINERY ARTICLES.

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4. COMMITTEE II: WORK CONTINUED TO BE CENTERED ABOUT MEETINGS OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE GROUPS DEALING WITH SPECIFIC ITEMS. HIGH SEAS: GROUP COMMENCED SECOND READING OF ARTICLES BASED ON GENERALLY SATISFACTORY UNIFIED TEXT PREPARED BY BUREAU DRAWN MAINLY FROM 1958 CONVENTION. UNIFIED TEXT ON BASELINES ALSO GENERALLY CONFORMS WITH 1958 CONVENTION, AND MAY NOT BE REOPENED. INNOCENT PASSAGE: CONSULTATIONS ARE OFF TO SLOW START DOMINATED

BY EFFORTS TO INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF STRAITS ALONG WITH TERRITORIAL SEA IN GENERAL. WITH US SUPPORT, CHAIRMAN HAS STOOD FAST IN RESISTING THIS EFFORT. SINGLE TEXT ON CONTIGUOUS ZONE BEING PREPARED BY BUREAU, WITH CONTROVERSY OVER WHETHER CONTIGUOUS ZONE WILL EXTEND BEYOND TWELVE MILES. TRANSIT TO SEA BY LANDLOCKED STATES: DEBATE HAS BEEN INCONCLUSIVE AND EMOTIONAL AT TIMES, WITH PREDICTABLE POSITIONS BEING TAKEN BY BOTH SIDES.

5. COMMITTEE III: (A) MARINE POLLUTION: C-III WORKING GROUP COMPLETED ARTICLE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ARTICLE INITIALLY PREPARED BY US. GREECE PRESENTED DRAFT ARTICLE (A/CONF. 62/C.3/L.27) ON PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM DUMPING AT SEA. WORKING GROUP COMMENCED CONTINUING DISCUSSION OF SHELF POLLUTION STANDARDS. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON INCLUSION VEL NON OF DOUBLE STANDARD FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ON THEORY ENUNCIATED BY BRAZIL AND SUPPORTED BY INDIA AND ECUADOR, THAT AS CONTINENTAL SHELF IS CONTINUATION OF CONTINENTAL LAND MASS, LAND-BASED DOUBLE STANDARDS SHOULD ALSO APPLY TO SHELF REGIME.

(B) MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH: INFORMAL AND INCONCLUSIVE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED ON ITEM RELATING TO RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY. FORMAL MEETING OF C-III CENTERED ON SOVIET PROPOSAL, L.26. FAVORABLE COMMENTS WERE MADE BY IRELAND AND BELGIUM WHILE ADVERSE COMMENTS WERE MADE BY CHILE, CHINA, BRAZIL, YUGOSLAVIA, ALBANIA, PAKISTAN.

6. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: WORKING GROUP COMPLETED DISCUSSIONS ON REMAINING ITEMS IN L.7. REVISED DRAFT WAS BRIEFLY REVIEWED BY GROUP AT FRIDAY MEETING.
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FOCUS NEXT WEEK WILL BE ON CONCILIATION, ARBITRATION, AND LOS TRIBUNAL ANNEXES TO CDS CHAPTER. TEXT POUCHED DEPT. DALE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED SUVA.

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